

Submitter: Emily Polanshek

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3336

Dear Committee Chair Lively, Co-chair Gamba and Members of the House Committee on Climate, Energy and the Environment,

Thank you for this opportunity for public comment.

I am a retired Canby School District teacher and a passionate volunteer advocate for stemming the advancing climate crisis. I want my grandchildren and all children to have hope for a healthy, livable future which may not be possible unless we phase out reliance on fossil fuels by transitioning to non-carbon-emitting energy alternatives.

I am advocating today in favor of HB 3336 for Grid Enhancement Technologies (GETs) and HB 3625 to create an Oregon Electric Transmission Authority.

I believe that these two bills together offer us cost-effective opportunities to increase the capacity of existing transmission lines, thereby decreasing the number of costly new lines required to support expanding energy needs in our state.

HB 3625 dovetails with HB 3336 and seems essential in the absence of a regional transmission authority. We need a government entity to assess, oversee, and plan Oregon's electricity transmission infrastructure while building public-private collaboration and funding.

It is also important that HB 3625 establishes a Tribal Advisory Council on Electric Transmission to ensure that equity and environmental concerns are addressed.

Since HB 3625 would limit the annual operating budget of an Oregon Electric Transmission Authority to a maximum of \$2 million financed by a slight charge to large industrial electricity customers, it could be good policy to benefit our state without straining our budget.

I hope legislators can come together in favor of the solutions these two bills offer. Thank you.